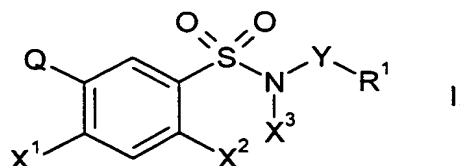


Abstract

The present invention relates to benzenesulfonamide derivatives of the formula I



in which the variables are as defined below:

- | | | |
|----|----------------|---|
| 5 | X ¹ | is hydrogen or halogen; |
| 10 | X ² | is hydrogen, cyano, CS-NH ₂ , halogen, alkyl or haloalkyl; |
| | X ³ | is hydrogen, cyano, alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or phenyl-alkyl, where the phenyl radical for its part may be substituted; |
| 15 | Y | is a group -C(A)B, SO ₂ or SO ₂ NR ² ; |
| | A | is oxygen or sulfur; |
| 20 | B | is oxygen, sulfur, NR ² or a bond; |
| | R ¹ | is hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyloxy, alkenyloxy, alkynyloxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyl, where the 13 last mentioned radicals for their part may be substituted; |
| 25 | | unsubstituted or substituted four- to six-membered heterocyclyl; |
| | | unsubstituted or substituted four- to six-membered heterocyclyl-C ₁ -C ₄ -alkyl; |
| | | unsubstituted or substituted five- or six-membered heteroaryl having one to four nitrogen atoms or having one to three nitrogen atoms and one oxygen |
| 30 | | or one sulfur atom or having one oxygen or sulfur atom; or |
| | | unsubstituted or substituted five- or six-membered heteroaryl-C ₁ -C ₄ -alkyl having one to four nitrogen atoms or having one to three nitrogen atoms and one oxygen or one sulfur atom or having one oxygen or sulfur atom; |
| 35 | R ² | is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, where the four last mentioned radicals may be partially or fully halogenated; or |

R^1 and R^2 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form an unsubstituted or substituted three- to seven-membered heterocycle;

Q is a radical from the group consisting of Q^1 to Q^{39} ;

5

to processes and intermediates for their preparation and to the use of these compounds or of the compositions comprising these compounds for controlling unwanted plants and for the desiccation/defoliation of plants.